

second surfaces under a force sufficient to maintain contact at the interface and having a static friction force therebetween; and

b. inducing a repetitive motion in the first surface parallel to the interface thereby altering the effective coefficient of friction, wherein the static friction force is unaltered.

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Please add the following new claims

143. (New) A method of controlling an effective coefficient of friction between a first surface of a first element and a second surface of a second element, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a. configuring the first and second surfaces to be in slidable contact with one another along an interface between the first surface and the second surface, wherein the interface is located along an anti-nodal region of the first element, the first and second surfaces under a force sufficient to maintain contact at the interface and having a static friction therebetween; and
 - b. inducing a repetitive motion in the first surface parallel to the interface thereby altering the effective coefficient of friction.

144. (New) A method of controlling an effective coefficient of friction between a first surface of a first element and a second surface of a second element, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a. configuring the first and second surfaces to be in slidable contact with one another along an interface between the first surface and the second surface, the first and second surfaces under a force sufficient to maintain contact at the interface and having a static friction force therebetween; and
 - b. inducing a repetitive motion in the first surface parallel to the interface thereby altering the effective coefficient of friction, wherein the static friction force is unaltered.

New Claims

By the above amendment, the Applicants have added new independent claims 143 and 144. The Applicants submit that new claims 143 and 144 are within the scope of the invention and are covered by the specification. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that new independent claims 143 and 144 are in a condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, they are encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP

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By: Thomas B. Haverstock

Thomas B. Haverstock
Reg. No.: 32,571
Attorneys for Applicants

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231